



**Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
SB502 Enoch Pratt Free Library - Capital Project Funding
February 27, 2023
Support**

Dear Chairman Guzzone, Vice-Chair Rosapepe and Distinguished Members of the Committee:

This letter is in support of SB502 for the purpose of providing capital funding for certain branches of Enoch Pratt Free Library.

Enoch Pratt Free Library is one of the oldest public library systems in the country. Eight of its facilities are over 100 years old and 14 are over 50 years old. They are undersized, and inadequate to provide the space and services needed in their communities. Many do not meet current Code or ADA requirements. HVAC systems are failing. Enoch Pratt Free Library also acts as our State Library Resource Center, providing services to the other 23 library systems and their citizens in Maryland.

The goal is to have a modern, updated, state of the art library system akin to what is in other counties would usher in generational change for the City of Baltimore residents.

I respectfully ask for your support of SB502.

Sincerely,

Debby Bennett
Executive Director

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Central Library
100 Market Street
Denton, Maryland 21629
p 410.479.1343 f 410.479.1443

Feddersburg Branch
123 Morris Avenue
Feddersburg, Maryland 21632
p 410.754.8397 f 410.754.3058

North County Branch
101 Cedar Lane • P.O. Box 336
Greensboro, Maryland 21639
p 410.482.2173 f 410.482.2634